

Message Text

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14-11

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6125

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 1322

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, RO, CA

SUBJ: CANADIAN NDP DELEGATION TO VISIT USSR AND ROMANIA

REF: MOSCOW 4307 (NOTAL)

1. NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY (NDP) DELEGATION CONSISTING OF PARLIAMENTARY LEADER ED BOARDBENT, FORMER LEADER DAVID LEWIS, FOREIGN AFFAIRS CRITIC ANDREW BREWIN, ONTARIO PROVINCIAL MP DAVID MACDONALD, AND FEDERAL SECRETARY CLIFFORD SCOTTON DEPART OTTAWA APRIL 14 FOR ABOUT ONE WEEK IN USSR AS GUESTS OF USA-CANADA INSTITUTE, AND TWO DAYS IN BUCHAREST.

2. SCOTTON TOLD EMBOFF THAT SOVIET INVITATION EXTENDED SEVERAL MONTHS AGO BY INSTITUTE DIRECTOR ARBATOV AND ACCEPTED ONLY AFTER CONSIDERABLE NDP SOUL-SEARCHING. SEVERAL NDP TRADE UNIONISTS AND JEWISH GROUPS WERE OPPOSED. BROADBENT RECENTLY DECLARED HIMSELF CANDIDATE FOR NDP LEADERSHIP, OPEN SINCE LEWIS' ELECTORAL DEFEAT LAST SUMMER, AND WILL PROBABLY LEAVE THE GROUP AFTER FOUR OR FIVE DAYS TO CAMPAIGN FOR JULY CONVENTION.

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3. SOVIETS HAVE TOLD NDP THEY HOPE DISCUSS
DETENTE-ORIENTED MATTERS, CSCE, TRADE, ETC.
NDP RESPONDED WITH REQUEST TO DISCUSS ARCTIC
DEVELOPMENT, LABOR PROBLEMS, AND LARGE SCALE
FARM MANAGEMENT, AND SCOTTON TOLD EMBOFF NDP
MEMBERS MIGHT PRESS HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES AS OCCASIONS
ARISE. VISIT TO USSR WILL INCLUDE MOSCOW, LENINGRAD
FOR INSTITUTE OF ARCTIC DEVELOPMENT, AND BAKU,
AZERBAIDZHAN, REPORTEDLY ARBATOV'S BIRTHPLACE.

4. ON LEARNING OF VISIT, ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR
PRESSED NDP GROUP TO VISIT BUCHAREST, WHICH ACCEPTED
AT EXPENSE OF EXTRA DAYS IN USSR. NO AGENDA HAS BEEN
SUGGESTED. PORTER

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